



18

Dec. 20-1902

REPORT
OF THE
AUDITORS

AND

Superintending School Committee

OF THE TOWN OF

UPPER GILMANTON

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

FEBRUARY 29, 1864.

LACONIA:
J. E. BATHING, PRINTER
and Ladoga
1864

AUDITORS' REPORT.

We have examined the account, orders and vouchers presented to us by the Selectmen and Town Treasurer, and find the following to be the result:

We find the Treasurer has paid the following sums by order of the Selectmen:

Paid Outstanding Bills and Orders.

H. H. Aldrich for bounty	\$109 74
J. W. Wells for money hired	18 00
" " " "	22 05
M. J. Page	52 00
G. W. Bachelder for bounty	37 00
" " " "	16 00
Isaac Osgood for labor on highway	1 00
G. W. Bachelder for bounty	10 00
J. B. Dearborn for bounty	50 00
J. S. Heath " "	53 37
C. Cotton " "	214 00
G. W. Bachelder " "	24 00
S. Shannon for money hired	179 08
F. C. Ward for bounty	211 39
" " " "	104 77
J. S. Weymouth for Selectmen's services 1862	6 50
J. A. Eastman for counsel fees	7 00
N. Wight for doctoring L. Dicy	30 00
J. P. Currier for labor on highway	3 00
C. A. Young for bounty	50 00
A. F. Young " "	10 00
J. Dehaff for labor on highway	1 00
J. Tucker for S. H. Stevens	18 44
F. Bennett for funeral expenses of S. H. Stevens	8 75
J. W. Wells for guide 1861	1 00
" " labor on bridge	1 00
Postage	1 79
C. A. Hackett for services in procuring enlistments	2 00
B. D. Lamprey do.	2 00
J. L. Keaser do.	2 00
C. Forrest for recruiting officer	6 00
Franconia for J. C. Smith	150 00
J. L. Bean for Emery gun 1861	4 00

A. F. Young for bounty	21 18
" " "	32 08
" " "	107 55
S. L. Taylor for services as Selectman 1860	2 50
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	\$1571 70

Paid on Roads and Bridges.

A. Kidder for covering stone	\$2 16
B. Fifield for labor on bridge	2 00
H. H. Aldrich do.	5 00
G. W. Plumer do.	1 25
G. L. Mead for powder and fuse	2 30
G. D. Ladd for covering stone and plank	2 28
S. Brown for bridge plank	4 74
J. S. Thompson for labor on bridge	18 50
I. Bennett for labor on road and bridge	6 00
D. T. French for bridge plank and timber	7 44
J. N. Sanborn for repairing stone tools	62
E. Keasor for covering stone	3 72
J. S. Weymouth for bridge timber and labor	5 50
G. R. Smith for posts for railing	1 68
M. O. Seavey for use of stone drills	25
Wm. H. Dalton for labor on highway	2 85
J. Laine do. do.	3 75
J. Y. Weymouth for labor on bridge	6 00
Brown and Dearborn for bridge plank	1 98
E. Chandler for labor on highway	7 50
J. M. Folsom for nails and boards to rail highway	1 75
B. S. Russell for labor on bridge	3 75
L. Sanborn for covering stone	4 00
A. L. Sanborn for bridge plank	8 63
J. C. Moulton damage for land for highway	25 00
D. T. French for stone and bridge plank	4 34
C. H. Norris for labor on bridge	2 50
J. C. Pearsons for labor on highway and bridge	6 50
John L. Keasor for covering stone	3 00
J. C. Cilley for stone for bridge	5 00
J. P. Currier for labor on bridges	9 00
J. W. Wells for labor on highway and bridges	9 53
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	\$163 52

Paid for Poor in other Towns charged to this.

G. W. Plumer for moving J. C. Smith	6 00
Laconia for Jonathan Ladd's family	30 60

S. Mugridge for team to move J. C. Smith	14 40
Ellen Hawkins for Emery girl	12 00
I. Bennett for car fare and expenses of J. C. Smith	11 70
I. Bennett for expenses in moving J. C. Smith's family	10 00
Franconia for J. C. Smith	72 49
Laconia for Jonathan Ladd	38 51
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	\$195 70

Paid for Poor in Town.

J. Sanborn for supplies for J. C. Smith	\$31 58
“ “ Emery girl	1 67
“ “ Jon. Ladd's family	13 77
“ “ Wid. S. Fifield	13 29
“ “ A. Russell	19 40
J. Wiggin for wid S. Fifield	2 00
C. C. Greenleaf for J. C. Smith	1 50
D. P. Leonard for J. C. Smith	7 66
J. Wiggin for Jon. Ladd's children	10 00
R. K. Parker for Jon. Ladd's family	17 63
Parker Brothers for Jon. family	2 00
R. L. Farrar for wood for wid. S. Fifield	1 75
N. D. Garmon for wid. S. Fifield	81
“ “ J. C. Smith	16 68
B. B. Lamprey for wood for Jon. Ladd's family	11 50
B. Clark for wood for wid. S. Fifield	14 00
E. Keasor for Joseph Ladd	3 67
G. R. Smith for labor and supplies for J. C. Smith	6 83
D. Folsom for wood for J. C. Smith	15 00
A. Woodman for supplies do.	3 04
N. Chase for wood for wid. S. Fifield	12 00
T. Clark for Emery girl	2 80
S. L. Leavitt for J. C. Smith	3 20
J. W. Wells for supplies for A. Russell	7 85
D. Folsom for J. C. Smith	7 50
O. Beaman do. do.	1 00
J. Tilton for Jon. Ladd's family	82
C. Beede for Joseph Ladd	1 50
J. M. Folsom beef for J. C. Smith	5 00
“ “ “ A. Russell	94
R. L. Farrar wood for wid. S. Fifield	7 00
J. W. Farrar for supplies for do.	4 45
“ “ “ and labor for Jonathan Ladd's family	9 80
B. B. Lamprey for Jon. Ladd's family	9 58

J. H. Tilton for J. C. Smith	1 00
B. Fifield do. do.	1 40
J. L. Allen do. do.	1 65
I. Bennett for S. H. Stevens	7 62
N. D. Garmon for wid S. Fifield	5 06
“ “ supplies for A. Russell	49
“ “ “ J. C. Smith	9 82
I. Bennett supplies for wid. Joseph Ladd	6 00
S. W. Sanders wash boiler for J. C. Smith	1 50
J. Gilbert coffin for Joseph Ladd	5 25
G. H. Gilman meat for wid. Jon. Ladd	2 16
Langdon Ladd for supplies for Jos. Ladd	5 06
B. J. Cole & Co., stove for J. C. Smith	5 00
M. Norris for supplies for “	5 93
“ “ A. Russell	3 60
T. Clark “ poor	8 30
J. W. Wells “ J. C. Smith	27 32
J. M. Roberts for funeral expenses of Jonathan Ladd	13 18
J. M. Beberts for supplies for wid. S. Fifield	87
D. H. Maxfield for wood for A. Russell	1 50
S. Smith for labor for J. C. Smith	2 00
J. Y. Weymouth for wood for A. Russell	14 56
Wm. H. Dalton “ “	8 21
C. D. Bryant for rent of house and land for J. C. Smith	20 00
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	\$425 55

Paid Physicians Bills.

B. Lyford for J. C. Smith	\$7 50
D. P. Nelson for Joseph Ladd	2 70
N. Wight for wid. S. Fifield	15 00
“ “ Mrs. A. Russell	7 00
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	\$32 20

Paid Current Expenses.

R. Rundlett for watering trough	\$3 00
Nancy M. Bean for interest on town order	9 00
County tax	582 84
Wm. R. Gale for two guide posts	4 00
State tax	764 10
Ira Mooney for use of hall	12 00
D. L. Guernsey for books	1 32
A. G. Jones for printing blanks	2 38
B. W. Sanborn for books and stationery	5 42

N. D. Garmon for board of Selectmen	9 00
J. B. Batchelder for printing town reports	17 00
I. Mooney for services as Auditor	3 00
E. Mallard for guide boards	2 40
S. C. Hill for damage for land	15 00
Wm. H. Dalton for use of horse	25
C. W. Bailey for Justice fees	3 00
Paid for Revenue Stamps	9 41
Paid for interest on money hired	62 44
Several school districts	643 17
Interest on town orders	4 50
J. Plumer for Revenue Stamps	95
J. Moody for carriage to move J. Ladd	36
N. B. Rowe do. do.	50
Paid transient pauper	50
N. D. Garmon for notifying jurors	3 00
K. Hall for Selectmen's expenses	50
I. C. Akeley for Selectmen's expenses	50
J. W. Wells for perambulating town lines making notices and returns of same	6 00
J. B. Batchelder for printing blanks	2 00
G. P. Folsom for use of carriage	50
Paid express bills	55
J. C. Cilley for collecting taxes for 1863	40 00
N. D. Garmon for board of Selectmen	32 25
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	\$2240 84

Abatement of Taxes.

J Farrar	\$2 76
J P Hall	5 00
Heirs of Jon. Whicher	1 15
Henry D. Cotton	2 76
Isaac Osgood	8 95
H. Chapman for taxes of 1859	3 72
N. Ellsworth	1 00
J. Wiggin	2 09
S Perkins	95
J C Cilley discount on taxes	10 00
E Brown for taxes of 1860	14 28
A Libby	1 00
H Prescott	81
R Sanborn	1 00
J Norris	2 76
R B Foss for tax of 1860	2 90
“ “ “	1 71
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	\$62 84

Claims Due the Town.

Cash on hand	861 78
Due from State for money paid soldiers families	918 00
J D Bean	13 00
State and United States for bounties paid to Soldiers	\$3822 00
	<hr/> \$5614 78
Amount of outstanding orders	20526 98
Claims due the town	5614 78
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Leaving indebtedness of town over means	\$14912 20
Paid substitutes for drafted men	2400 00
Volunteers	2460 00
Bounties to soldiers in 1862	9450 00
	<hr/> \$143010 00
Indebtedness of town over means for soldiers	14912 29
	<hr/> 14310 00
Indebtedness of town aside from war debt	\$602 20

REPORT

Of the Superintending School Committee of Upper Gilmanton.

In comparing the present state of the schools of this town, with their condition eight years ago, we notice improvement in the School Houses. Within this time seven of the twelve Houses in Town have been either rebuilt, or refitted; and the places of the old are now occupied by new, tidy and commodious houses, which contribute to the health, morals and mental activity of the pupils. The character of most of the text books is materially improved, and their number in proportion to the number of scholars that use them, greatly increased. Formerly, it was no uncommon thing for two, three, and sometimes more scholars to use the same book in school. Now cases of this kind are less frequent though it will be seen from the table that there is still a deficiency in this respect. The multiplicity of text books has been a great impediment to the advancement of our schools. In some districts there were as many different kinds as scholars. Now there is a uniformity in Reading spelling, Geography and Arithmetic. In Grammar there are no less than seven kinds of books used. It is very desirable that a uniformity in this branch, also, be secured as soon as practicable. There has justly been much complaint about the frequent changes of books. As soon as a book is fairly introduced, and the scholars supplied with the required number, a change is deemed necessary to the greatest good of the schools. The motive power to these *philanthropic* (?) changes is usually the few shillings that the one who makes them receives for his

trouble. Such legerdemain is a cheat upon the public, and should be carefully guarded against by every Superintending Committee; in whose hands is the book recommending power. Irregularity of attendance, and tardiness, is a great hinderance to the success of schools. Want of space forbids an enumeration of the evils resulting from this cause; but they are many and obvious. In 1859 the average attendance was 84 per cent of the whole attendance. In 1860 82 per cent. The present year 80 per cent.

Attention is invited to the record of tardiness and dismissal in the table. It is presumed that this is not kept up to the facts, as teachers always desire to present their schools in their most favorable aspect. It cannot be expected that every scholar will be present at the opening of the school in the morning, or attend every day during the term. Sickness, bad travelling, and inclement weather, in this cold and broken region, all have a tendency to increase the number of checks in the School Register. But we are convinced that most of this irregularity could be avoided by greater care and attention upon the part of those who send to school. It is of great importance to every person residing in a school district, that the office of Prudential Committee be properly filled. Honesty, good judgment, a knowledge of the wants of the district, and efficiency in action, together with a *personal interest* in the welfare of the school; are qualifications that should be possessed by every Committee. The time of holding a school is sometimes suited to the accommodation of a few, and the injury of many. We frequently hear the remark, that "the school money this year belongs to such an one." It should be distinctly understood, that no person has a right to benefit from school money, except by sending to or attending school in the district in which he resides. The fact that a person pays a large school tax, constitutes *no claim* to the school money. The sacrifice, in various ways, of the welfare of schools to individual interests, is a kind of robbery too common among us, and should be deprecated by every person who desires their prosperity. Committees sometimes find that, though they have acted honestly, and upon the best of their judgment in employing teachers they have failed to make a wise selection, and their schools have been worthless. Such losses cannot always be avoided, and whenever they occur, should stimulate us to greater vigilance in the future. It is not often that persons present themselves as candidates for teaching, whose knowledge of books is insufficient to enable them to be successful teachers; but we frequently find those, who, in their knowledge of human nature; faculty of imparting what they know, and peculiar adaptation to the work of teaching; are sadly deficient. Some teachers are successful in some districts, and unsuccessful in others. The result is always pleasing when we find the right teacher in the right place. The teachers who have been employed the present year have generally labored earnestly and faithfully. They are entitled to credit for diligence and perseverance. But many of them seem to have a very indefinite idea of what a good school is. They labor earnestly but in a wrong direction. Out of twenty-two terms during the year, only seven or eight can be denominated first class schools. The remainder range from medium to poor. We do not say that the schools in town are of a lower order this year than usual. There has been no disturbance requiring the intervention of the Committee to quell it. Teachers have made but little complaint of bad scholars and parents are generally satisfied with their schools. Many other cheering facts might be mentioned in this connection; but while the majority have been only medium they ought to have been *good*. While the condition of school houses, the number, character and uniformity of school-books are improved, the condition of our schools, as a whole, is but little if any better than formerly. If we look for the reason for this state of things, we notice the *masterly indifference* with which the majority treat the subject of education. A few persons attend the school meetings; and frequently, each of this few is desirous of get-

ting as much of the school money as possible. Or they have friends whom they desire to initiate into the mysteries of pedagogy, regardless of their fitness for the position. Still less do they visit the school-room and accurately witness the labors of the teacher in charming into subjection their off-spring, and in "teaching the young idea how to shoot."

This material world is too busy making money; too eager in the pursuit of the almighty dollar, to give the subject of education more than a passing notice. It is deemed of too little consequence to elicit their attention. They pay their school tax, erect school houses, furnish school books, and send their children to school, and here their efforts cease. They withhold that earnest solicitude, hat untiring vigilance and watchfulness that the importance of the subject demands, and that other subjects of less importance receive.— Teachers are very deficient in the faculty of *governing and teaching* schools. The Superintending Committee is sometimes censured for not examining teachers more thoroughly; and is always more or less blamed for every poor school. We never intentionally allow a person to commence a school, whose education is not sufficient to enable him to be successful; but in regard to temper, disposition and capacity for the government of schools it is more difficult to decide. A first class teacher for every school cannot be obtained under the present state of lethargy in regard to this subject. Parents are measurably satisfied with medium, and sometimes poor schools.— When they imperatively demand that a more healthy atmosphere shall pervade our schools, we are of the opinion that they will rapidly improve. Let us lay aside prejudice, selfishness, and indifference, and unitedly and persistently labor for the advancement of our schools; and the result will be satisfactory. In conclusion, we think the schools of Upper Gilmanton the past year have been as successful as could be expected, considering the *limited* time, care and solicitude bestowed upon them. The foregoing remarks, together with the following tabular statement and detailed report are respectfully submitted.

JOSEPH PLUMER,

Superintending School Committee of Upper Gilmanton.
Upper Gilmanton, Feb. 22, 1864.

TABULAR STATEMENT.

No. of Districts	Time of com. each school	Names of Teachers.	Names of P. Com.	Length of S. in weeks.	Amount of Money.	No. of scholars.	Average attendance.	Deficiency in the No. of copies of T. Book.	No. months taught by each teacher before this term.	No. of visits by citizens and others.	Instances of tardiness and dismissal.	No. between April 1 and years not attending.
1	May 25	S Frances Weeks	L Ladd	12	84	88	20	14	11	0	29	89
2	Nov. 16	McElia Rowe	A Libby	13	5	24	15	3	7	45	36	36
3	June 1	Carrie Durgin	A Bean	8	55	19	16	15	3	21	9	11
4	Dec. 7	Emily S Potter	A Bean	9	22	9	3	6	13	5	11	11
5	May 25	Mary L Morrill	II Effield	7	58	65	19	17	3	64	9	60
6	Nov. 30	Hattie A Tilton	II Effield	7	61	33	23	18	3	19	16	11
7	Nov. 2	L A Eaton	B S Russell	9	32	24	29	0	0	29	57	1
8	Nov. 13	Jacob H. Odell	B S Russell	10	96	23	43	32	29	0	53	150
9	May 18	Fil C Evans	J S Kimball	9	49	73	11	10	3	9	19	29
10	Nov. 30	W H Kimball	J S Kimball	8	49	73	11	10	3	9	19	29
11	Nov. 23	O A Buswell	E A Rowe	8	45	73	20	19	7	3	27	10
12	Nov. 18	M F Shepard	E A Rowe	8	45	73	20	19	7	3	27	10
13	May 18	C Merrill	E A Rowe	8	45	73	20	19	7	3	27	10
14	Oct. 26	Carrie W Clay	G B Ranlett	6	41	67	11	9	5	30	13	6
15	June 1	Joseph Plumer	G B Ranlett	7	53	15	20	16	9	28	4	20
16	Nov. 30	S A Weeks	T Folsom	8	53	15	20	16	9	28	4	20
17	May 18	T Osgood	T Folsom	9	53	15	20	16	9	28	4	20
18	Nov. 9	E M Lamproy	R L Farrar	11	49	52	13	12	3	18	34	96
19	Nov. 2	M L Morrill	J Willard	11	34	28	9	7	2	8	4	10
20	Aug. 24	M D Leighton	I Osgood.	6	25	99	8	5	16	16	5	3
21	June 8	"	"	9	25	99	8	5	17	7	0	0

* Board gratuitously furnished. † This check shows the number of additional books necessary to furnish each scholar with a copy of the books he has studied.

DISTRICT NO. 1. LADD HILL

Summer term. The classes in Geography and Grammar learned very well. Classes in Mental Arithmetic deficient. Their recitations were woful mockeries of the name. Winter term. This was a lengthy and profitable term. The scholars are well advanced, considering their ages. We found them interested and obedient. The closing examination was highly satisfactory. Teacher, scholars, and parents united their efforts for the welfare of the school. More interested visitors were present at the close than at any other examination in town.

DISTRICT NO. 3. BRICK

Summer term. The teacher was sick the last week of the term, and at our second visit the school was conducted by another person. The examination under these circumstances was necessarily brief. The school gave evidence of good order, thoroughness, and system. There are some fine scholars in this district, who appear to appreciate their advantages, and improve time in the school-room. Winter term. Soon after the commencement sickness appeared among the scholars which greatly lessened the usefulness of the term. Those that were able to attend regularly made improvement entirely

satisfactory. There were many excellent points manifested in this school that are alike creditable to teacher and scholars. The best class in parsing in town is in this district.

DISTRICT NO. 3. JAMESTOWN.

Summer term. The teacher labored earnestly for the welfare of the school, but was unable to secure order or awaken an interest in the pupils; consequently the advancement was limited. Winter term. The classes in written Arithmetic made good proficiency and were thorough. One class went through Greenleaf's Common School and one through the National. Classes in Grammar and Geography fair. In mental Arithmetic, deficient. At our last visit some of the larger scholars were engaged in the highly intellectual employment of making comic books; a practice which adds nothing to the good behavior of boys in school.

DISTRICT NO. 4. SOUTH ROAD.

Summer term. The precision and accuracy in the calculations and thoroughness manifested in all the branches parsing, the practical knowledge of all the pupils claimed to know; were manifestable evidences of a thorough and systematic course of training.— Order good, and secured in a pleasant manner. Winter term. It is suicidal to the interests of a school to allow the pupils to pass over a great amount of matter in their books without understanding it.— Had the teacher manifested more energy, and given his undivided attention to the work of teaching, the school would have been more profitable; however, the scholars manifested some interest, and made some proficiency.

DISTRICT NO. 5. VILLAGE.

Summer term. The largest school in town. The teacher displayed skill and ability in its management. The order and discipline of the school evinced a good knowledge of the principles of school management; and one of Colburn's. It is a common task to keep order among so many small scholars, but we think the order in this school might have been better. Winter term. Too noisy, and the scholars too restless to admit of much improvement.

DISTRICT NO. 6.

Summer term. At our visit the school appeared quiet and orderly with a good degree of interest. Improvement satisfactory. Winter term. There was a misunderstanding in regard to the time of its close, consequently it was visited but once. At the commencement the arrangements were proper, and the order fair.

DISTRICT NO. 7.

Summer and Winter terms by the same teacher. They were conducted in a masterly manner. The readiness with which the pupils performed the tasks assigned them, and the thoroughness manifested in all the studies pursued, indicated a united effort upon the part of teacher and scholars, which secured a good school.

DISTRICT NO. 8.

Summer Term. Good improvement in all the classes. Method of instruction superior; producing a practical understanding of the branches taught seldom witnessed in a school. Winter term. The scholars were orderly, attentive to study, and learned well. The only point connected with the school of which we have reason to complain was irregularity of attendance. The average of scholars compares favorably with other schools.

DISTRICT NO. 9. PROVINCE ROAD.

Summer term. Some of the classes made fair progress, many of them were not so thorough as desirable. Order better at the commencement than at the close. Winter term. The scholars seemed interested and made good advancement. Classes in Mental Arithmetic improved rapidly. General appearance of the school—good.

DISTRICT NO. 10.

One term during the year. The scholars manifested some interest. The classes in written Arithmetic, Geography, and Grammar were quite thorough and showed well. The attainment in Colburn's was superficial. At our first visit one class in reading had a runious habit of heedlessly miscalling words. We called the attention of the teacher and scholars to it, and was pleased to notice a decided improvement at the close of the school.

DISTRICT NO. 11.

One term during the year. At our visits the order was good and the scholars attentive to study. The classes in Mental Arithmetic, Geography, Grammar, and Physiology were quite thorough, and appeared well. In written Arithmetic, there was a want of thoroughness.

DISTRICT NO. 12.

Summer and Winter terms by the same teacher. This smallest school in town; average only five. It is almost impossible to awaken an interest among a number so small. The scholars made the best of their lonely condition and appeared well. The class in Geography was quite interesting, and in point of thoroughness was not excelled by any in town.



